

DARGLE CONSERVANCY

Action Plan Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Hebron Haven 10th August 2022 at 5.30pm

Present: Ashley Crookes, Jenny Goddard, Kevin Barnsley, Lynne Garbutt, Gilly Robartes

Apologies: Steve Lourens, Gugu Zuma, Michael Goddard

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minutes of the last meeting held in March, together with updated minutes of activities and actions carried out since then, had been distributed and taken as read. • It was noted that whilst Gugu and Michael were not present, they have arranged to get together to work on the portfolios of Youth, Education and Community Farming. 	GZ/MG
<p>Items carried forward from previous minutes:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video presentation demonstrating scope of AEN work undertaken. As our biggest project to date, it is important to have this documented and widely shared. • River signage : See detailed update below • Illegal signage on R103 : Kevin is continuing with requests to have DoT remove illegal signs, but no response to date. This will remain an action item until resolved. • “My Midlands App” I now up and running. Agreed DC needs a presence on this app. Ashley to liaise with the developers and report back. • Mount Park Farm Piggery development – we remain listed as an AIP, but no further communication received. • AEN : See detailed update below • Refuse sign has still not been erected at Tanglewood site. • Educational programme still to be implemented : Litter, Fire Awareness, Snakes & Water 	<p>KB</p> <p>AC</p> <p>KB</p> <p>AC</p> <p>JG</p> <p>JG</p> <p>GZ/MG</p>
<p>Amanzi Ethu Nobuntu (AEN)</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This highly successful project was wrapped up at end July (which was the extra month added on the original term) • Kevin proposed that we extend for a further month in order to “mop up” and provide the opportunity for the team and landowners to gain further benefit. • Lynne advised that surplus AEN funds held are R30,5k. • After a lengthy debate it was agreed to supplement this surplus with DC funds to bring it up to R45k. Utilisation of this amount was agreed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ R10k bonus to Nirvarnah (to uphold a promise made at the start, depending on performance etc). ○ R35k to subsidise MEMBER landowners with RIVER FRONTAGE wanting AEN services on a 50/50 basis. (COMMUNICATION IN THIS REGARD TO BE DISSEMINATED ASAP) • The clearing of wattle in particular will be encouraged. (Some discussion re: Bio-Char as an option?) 	<p>LG</p> <p>AC/KB</p>

Finances:	
Current bank balances: Current account xxxxxx, Money Market account xxxxxx	
Clean Up Project	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landowners and residents were asked to set time aside on 5th August to tidy their verges of litter. There was a seemingly poor uptake. To be repeated later in the year with more communication/hype. The litter strewn on the the Lions River roadside was discussed. Kevin will approach Neo to suggest the community get involved this coming weekend Education in respect of litter and waste control is essential, especially the importance of community ownership in addressing the problem. 	<p>AC/All</p> <p>KB</p> <p>GZ/MG</p>
Liaison with Conservancies KZN, Municipality, HDLA et al	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing. Every effort should be made to keep in touch with other Conservancies in the Midlands in order to share ideas, join forces and provide mutual support. This is happening to an extent, but a more formal platform would be ideal (WhatsApp group, meetings etc). DC to initiate. 	AC/JG
Signage	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ashley received a quote of R6,578 for 2 x Dargle and 2 x Umngeni River signs. Dargle Poles have offered to sponsor the poles. R2000 donated ex. TasteBuds Market will be allocated to this expense as agreed with Sue Watson. Agreed that we go ahead on this basis. Additional 50 Member signs have been received and distribution to new (and existing members) has commenced. Stock and distribution will be managed by Jenny. (Lynne to check if we have paid SignCo?) Barend Booysen had requested signage for the Dargle Nature Reserve. This will be put on hold until the regulations and privacy rights of ALL the relevant landowners is properly understood and mutually agreed between them. As a start, Gilly offered to speak to Andre Anderson in this regard and report back. 	<p>AC/LG</p> <p>JG/LG</p> <p>GR/AC/All</p>
Education	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See items carried forward and Member Programme below 	GZ/MG/All
Member Programme	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talks and activities held to date in 2022 have been minuted. There has been fantastic support from members and the community in general. The following options and ideas are being planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 28th August – Poort Walk guided by Andrew Fowler September – FreeMe talk (Wade). Date & topic to be finalised. October – Inshlosane Walk guided by John Roffe or Julia Colvin November – Tree talk by expert (Gilly to contact) and/or Fire Awareness talk by expert (Kevin to contact) Ideas for the future include: Historian (expert to be sourced), Falcons (Steve), Renewable energy (Kev) 	<p>AC/All</p> <p>AC/All</p> <p>AC/All</p> <p>GR/KB</p> <p>SL/KB/All</p>

Development:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mount Park Farm Piggery – ongoing, no updates • We registered as an AIP in respect of a Step-down Health facility proposed in the Curry's Post area. 	JG/AC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8.30pm Next Committee meeting will be held on(to be confirmed). 	AC/JG